

Tracts The results were to be, and actually were, published in the first instance in the form of Supplements to *The New Statesman* The first two lines of enquiry opened up, through special Committees appointed for the purpose, were "Land Problems and Rural Development,"<sup>15</sup> and "The Control of Industry " On the first, no controversy arose A Report was prepared and published, first in the *Statesman*, and later in book form The Second, however, was another matter Here, under the standing Webb formula, "First know the Facts," the very core of the industrial ferment was being attacked William Mellor, who had been appointed secretary of the new Research Department, was with G D H Cole, among the most ardent and effective prophets of a school of interpretation of the facts bearing on the control of industry which was in sharp and expressed antagonism to the Webbs Mellor and Cole not only held the view that the *History of Trade Unionism* and even more urgently, *Industrial Democracy*, required to be re-written, they were ready to do it, and viewed the Research Department as their instrument for that useful purpose

To this view, with facts fully on their side, the Webbs were able, politely but firmly, to say "Nonsense," when in 1920 they penned new Prefaces to both works In \*933> it is even clearer than it was in 1920, that Gild Socialism, as the 'positive doctrine of Cole, Mellor and their associates, came to be called, was only one of

those sporadic  
off-shoots from the main line of development  
which grow  
lustily for a time, and then wither for lack of  
organic sap  
But the position appeared very different, in  
1913-14

Syndicalism—the doctrine of "all power to  
the producer"  
—swept over the French Labour movement,  
with M. Georges  
Sorel's *Reflexions sur la Violence* as its  
sympathetic textbook  
for the intelligentsia Crossing the Channel,  
it was, by  
the same intelligentsia, subjected to a sea  
change In